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SUBJECT **Activities of Paraguayan Communists**

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- B-2 1. The following leaders of the Communist Party of Paraguay (CPP) were recently released from the Asuncion jail: Nicasio Rios, a reserve member of the Central Committee, Arturo Acosta Mena, member of the Central Committee, and Leonidas Pavia Palacios, a former member of the Central Committee. These three individuals have gone, or will go, to Clorinda, Argentina.
- B-3 2. An increased activity has been noted on the part of both Communists and Febreristas. Source attributes this to the fact that so many of the political prisoners are being released from prison that they appear to be regaining confidence and feel able to undertake more risks. The release of so many political prisoners is ascribed to Chief of Police Antonio Oddone Sarrubi's lack of interest in the situation.
- B-2 3. A number of prisoners have been freed because they were able to pay for their release. Other prisoners who were acquitted by official order were immediately rearrested because they had not made such payments. These graft payments are being given to Adrian Benitez, Chief of the Social Order Section of the police.
- B-3 4. Alfredo Alcorta, leader of the Communist Party cell in the Asuncion jail, is supervising preparations for escape in the event of trouble. It is said that the Communist prisoners have been digging a tunnel to provide themselves with an exit and have secretly prepared a hole in the roof through which they might be able to escape and overpower the guards.
- B-2 5. Ismael Florentin, ex-Army Air Captain who participated on the side of the rebels in the 1947 revolution, was released from the military prison at Pema Hermosa on 21 December 1948. Florentin, a Communist, is expected to go into exile immediately. It is not known to what country he will go.
- B-3 6. A grand reunion of the CPP has been scheduled to take place about 31 January 1949 in Asuncion. A prominent foreign Communist leader will allegedly attend this meeting.

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- B-6 7. [REDACTED] believes that if it does occur, the foreign representative will possibly be Victorio Codovilla, prominent Argentine Communist. Codovilla has recently been in Clorinda, Argentina at least once for the purpose of conferring with Paraguayan Communist leaders in exile.
- B-2 8. A pamphlet recently issued by the Consejo Obrero del Paraguay (COP) was written by the following Paraguayan Communists in Clorinda: Juan P. Acosta, Dimas P. Acosta, Ramon Fratt, Antonio Dafonseca, Leonidas Paiva Palacios, Eligio Coronil, and Silvino Froile. This pamphlet, directed at Paraguayan laborers, calls upon all workers to unite and demand from the Paraguayan Government higher wages, paid vacations, and an extra month's pay for each year's work. Another copy of the clandestinely printed adelante, official organ of the COP, was published on 21 November 1948.

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